



NIBEC

Nanotechnology & Integrated
Bioengineering Centre



Digital Catapult regional LPWAN Network fund

20th Sept. 2017



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Key details of the project



- Implement and operate a free-to-use regional LPWAN network for the use of testing, experimentation, demonstration and piloting of IoT products and services.
- A consortium consisting of Ulster University, InvestNI, many of Northern Ireland's councils, and Tourism NI has formed to bring this opportunity to local SMEs.
- 50 LoRaWAN gateways across NI are proposed - gateways will be located depending on SME interest (target is full coverage but realistically we wish to ensure quality wireless services to interested SMEs).
- Ulster University will develop a training/engagement programme for SMEs interested in developing and trialling technical solutions on the network.
- Regular meet-ups through IoT Alliance, IoT-Belfast, UU, TechTalk Coleraine, etc. to both engage and educate users.



Key details of the Challenges



Large-scale challenges funded by the local Councils (and Tourism NI) running between 31/3/18 – 31/3/19, with commercialisation potential of significant interest.

Key objective of the project is to innovate, experiment and prototype new products and services to market for the benefit of SMEs and the economy.

~£100K from Digital Catapult to create and support a regional LoRaWAN network

~£150K from NI Councils and Tourism NI to run IoT Challenges

Challenge themes will be in the area of;

- **Tourism**
- **Health**
- **Manufacturing**
- **Creative Technologies**
- **Agriculture/ Food Manufacture**
- **Waste Management**
- **Transportation Delivery and Planning**
- **Monetarisation of Data**

Key details of the Challenges



UU will provide technical support for the network, this will take the form of;

- A technician to support users with network, data, and device issues (***to be confirmed***)
- Training opportunities for SMEs to understand the technology potential as well as implementation processes
- A training and information website for SMEs (including the video recordings of all training sessions and an organic Q&A section)
- A project user forum to allow users to share experiences and ideas, support each other, create opportunity for collaboration, and to share tutorials
- Regular scheduled meet-ups
- Business support through InvestNI who can advise on how to further exploit the business opportunities as they arise.